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015389-002616US 6/28/01



Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

On June 18, 2001

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By:

Maisie C. Livengood

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Thomas R. Cech et al.

Application No.: 09/721,506

Filed: November 22, 2000

For: HUMAN TELOMERASE  
CATALYTIC SUBUNIT

Art Unit: 1651

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced application, please enter the following amendments and remarks.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 4, with the following rewritten paragraph:

A | The present application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial Number 08/974,549 filed November 19, 1997, Patent Number 6,166,178, which is a continuation-in-part application of U.S. Patent Application Serial Number 08/915,503, filed August 14, 1997, abandoned, and a continuation-in-part application of U.S. Patent Application Serial Number 08/912,951, filed August 14, 1997, and a continuation-in-part application of U.S. Patent Application Serial Number 08/911,312, filed, filed August 14, 1997, all three of which are